

AN ORDINANCE BY *Mayor Arthur A. Campbell*
COUNCIL MEMBERS DERRICK BOAZMAN, JIM MADDOX, C.T.
MARTIN, MARY NORWOOD, AND IVORY LEE YOUNG, JR.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HER
DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A CITYWIDE
ELECTRONIC WATER METER READER SYSTEM; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta entered into a Consent Decree and remedial plan to correct violations as it related to the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, the City is presently in the process of performing certain upgrades and renovations to its water and wastewater systems; and

WHEREAS, complete funding for this massive undertaking is not currently available, and various funding options are being explored; and

WHEREAS, among these options should be cost-cutting measures, wherever feasible; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta presently uses a manual system for the reading of seventy-five (75%) of the meters, and twenty-five (25%) are estimated; and

WHEREAS, many of the City's meters are broken and the Department of Watershed Management has been unable to verify an accurate number of water and sewer customers; and

WHEREAS, immediate replacement of meters will result in an accurate accounting of all water and sewer customers in the City of Atlanta, potentially reducing the rate increases necessary to fund the Capital Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, upon replacement of existing meters with auto-read meter will enable readings to be obtained electronically, which will reduce the cost of operation for the Department of Watershed Management; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is desirous of the implementation of such a system, since the upgrading of the meter-reading process will result in greater efficiency, accurate reporting of water usage, and a greater potential for increased revenue; and

WHEREAS, preliminary estimates obtained for the replacement of meters with a combination of “radio read” and “touch read” meters is \$150-200 per meter.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA as follows:

Section 1: That the Mayor or her designee is hereby authorized to establish a citywide electronic water meter-reading system, which shall include both “radio read” and “touch read” meters, at a cost not-to-exceed \$200 per meter.

Section 2: That the Mayor or her designee is hereby authorized to assign priority status to this project, and is to report to City Council on a monthly basis beginning February, 2004, as to the status of the implementation of this system.

Section 3: That the budget of the Capital Improvement Program of the Department of Watershed Management be adjusted by reducing the Program Management fee by the amount required to purchase and install an electronic water meter-reading system.